

DISCLAIMER

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* Please note, unless mentioned in reference to a NIST Publication, all information and data presented is preliminary/in-progress and subject to change





Presentation Outline

- Project Background & Motivation
- Test Method Theory
- Test Procedures
- Test Methods used in UAS1 and UAS2
- Apparatus Fabrication
- Other UAS Test Methods

Project Background & Motivation

The NIST Emergency Response Robots Project



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- Intelligent Systems Division, Engineering Laboratory National Institute of Standards and Technology Department of Commerce Gaithersburg, MD USA
- Institute for Soft Matter Synthesis and Metrology Georgetown University Washington, DC USA

Website: RobotTestMethods.nist.gov Email: RobotTestMethods@nist.gov



Science and Technology Directorate



Project Overview

Objective:

- Provide emergency responders a way to *quantitatively measure* whether robots are *capable* and *reliable* enough to perform operational tasks.
- Encourage integration of onboard sensors and intelligent controls to improve remote operator capabilities.

Approach:

 Develop test methods that measure robot maneuvering, mobility, sensors, energy, radio comms, dexterity, durability, logistics, autonomy, and operator proficiency.

Impacts:

- Communicate operational needs to robot developers.
- Enable users to understand emerging robot capabilities.
- Guide robot purchasing and deployment decisions
- Focus training and measure operator proficiency



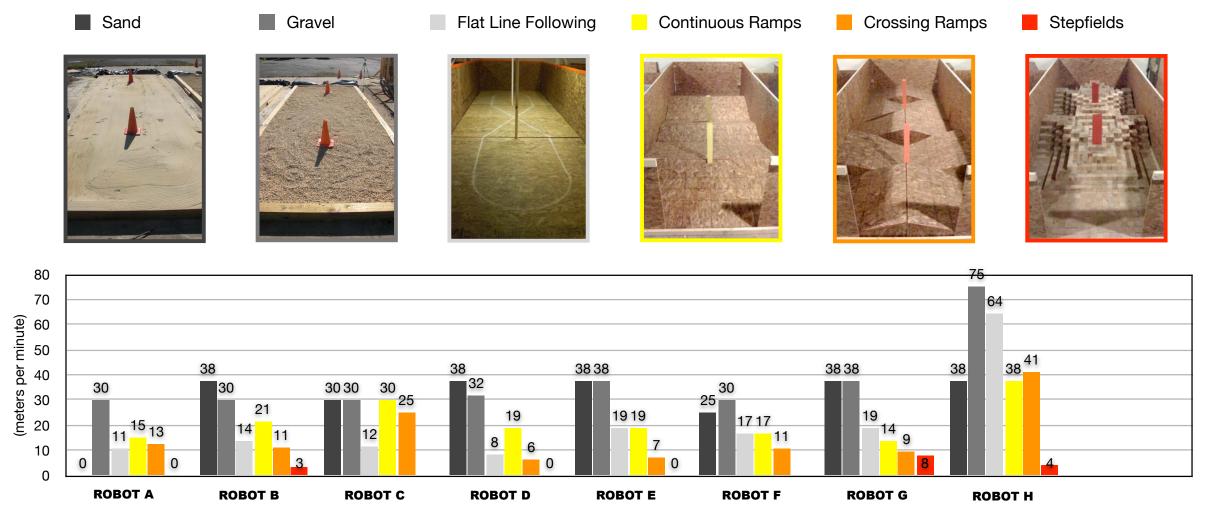




The NIST Robotics Test Facility

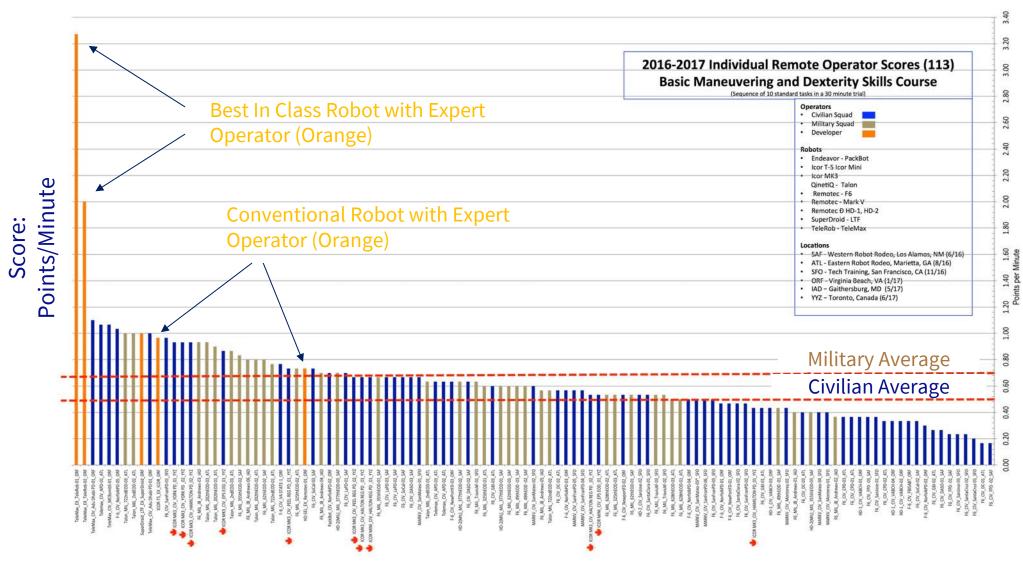


Example of Quantitative Robot Performance Data



Average Rate of Advance on Terrain for At Least 100m

Example of Robot Operator Proficiency Data



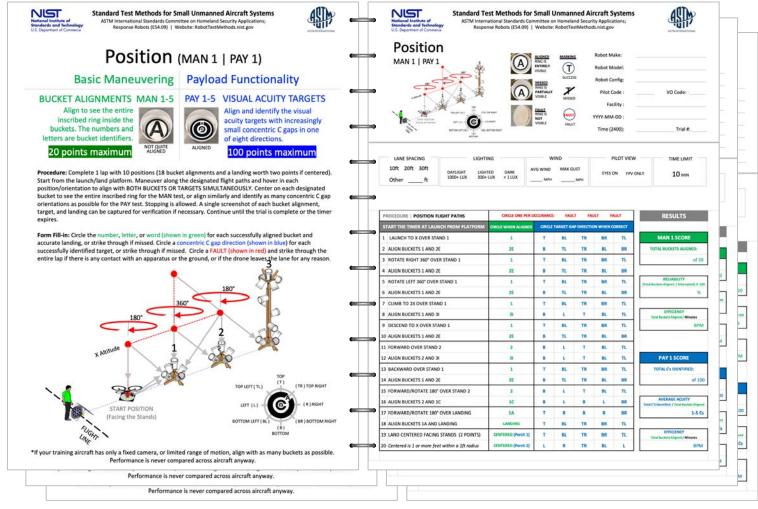
100+ Bomb Squad Technicians Using Their Operational Robots (USA & Canada)

Track and Compare Proficiency - Trial Forms (v2020A)

SCORE SUMMARY ON COVER

Notional Institute of ASTM International Standards	or Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Committee on Homeland Security Applications;)) Website: RobotTestMethods.nist.gov
Basic Maneuvering and Payload Functionality Safety Capabilities Proficiency Forms Version: 2019-G	
Make:	MAN 1-5 COMPLETED RELIABILITY (buckets/min)
wake:	1) POSITION:
Model:	2) TRAVERSE:
	3) ORBIT:
Config:	4) SPIRAL:
	5) SPEED:
Pilot Code: VO Code:	MAN 1-5 TOTAL SCORE 100 Points Max
Date:	PAY 1-5 COMPLETED ACUITY EFFICIENCY (points) (average Cs) (buckets/min)
Facility:	1) POSITION:
	2) TRAVERSE:
Location:	3) ORBIT:
	4) SPIRAL:
Event:	5) DELIVER:
	PAY 1-5 TOTAL SCORE 500 Points Max
	UNIO TEST METHO
Test Director: Adam Jacoff Intelligent Systems Division	Sponsor: Phil Mattson
ational Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce	Science and Technology Directorate U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Internet RobotTestMethods.nist.gov	Email RobotTestMethods@nist.gov

PILOT BOOKLET WITH INSTRUCTIONS, FORMS, SCENARIOS, ETC.



Comprehensive Suite of 50+ Test Methods

Ground, Aerial, and Aquatic Systems

Mobility

Dexterity

Endurance

Sensors

Radio Comms

Durability

Logistics

Safety

Autonomy

Proficiency



Humanoids



Humanoids



Dexterity



Standard Lanes



Vehicle Scenarios



120cm (48in) Scale



30cm (12in) Scale



Confined access



Aerial (netted)



Aerial (outdoor)



Aerial (hangar)



Underwater (tank)

Sponsors and Customers

Sponsors

Adopting and Developing
New Standard Test Methods



Robot Purchases

Using Robot Capabilities
Data From Test Methods

\$70M to date







Working with the Nation's Bomb Techs

Western Region:

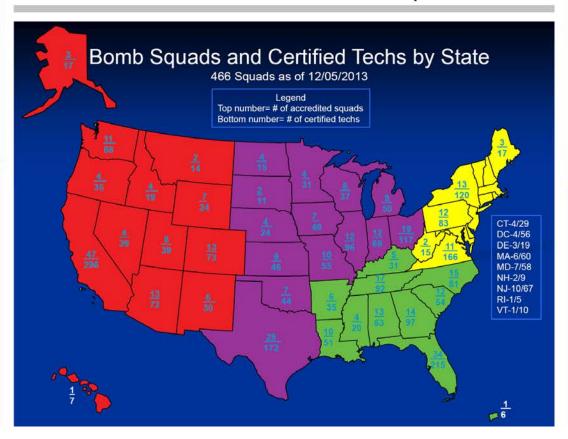
- CA San Diego Fire Rescue (2014)
- WA Port of Seattle Police (2015)
- CA Santa Clara Sheriff (2016)
- CA Navy SPAWAR, San Diego (2016)
- AZ Phoenix Police (2016)
- NV Las Vegas Fire (2016)
- CO Denver Police (2016)
- AZ Tucson Police (2016)

Central Region:

- TX Southwest Research Institute, San Antonio (2010)
- TX Austin Fire (2016)
- TX Houston Police (2016)
- TX Disaster City, College Station (2016)
- KS Kansas City, Olathe Fire (2016)
- MI Michigan State Police (2016)
- MI Detroit Police (2016)
- OH Cincinnati Fire (2016)

ENGAGING MORE THAN 25% OF BOMB SQUADS NATIONWIDE

28 Validation Sites of 120 Requests



Northern Region:

- MD NIST, Gaithersburg (2006, 2012)
- MA UMass Lowell (2013)
- WV ARMY Camp Dawson, Kingwood (2013)
- PA Penn State Uni., State College (2014)
- NY DHS Training Center, Oriskany (2015)
- MD Navy NAVEODTECHDIV, Indian Head (2016)
- VA Virginia State Police (2016)

Southern Region:

- FL Air Force Tyndall AFB, Pensacola (2014)
- FL Lee County Sheriff (2016)
- FL Boca Raton Police (2016)
- GA Atlanta Police (2016)
- GA Dobbins Air Force Reserve Base (2016)

Collaborating Test Facilities Worldwide



Test Director: Andrew Moore Southwest Research Institute Dept. of Electronics and Robotics San Antonio, TX, USA (Established 2010) International Rescue System

Test Director: Satoshi Tadokoro International Rescue System Institute and Tohoku University Kobe and Sendai, Japan (Established 2011)



Test Director: Johannes Pellenz Bundeswehr Technical Center for Engineer and General Field Equipment Koblenz, Germany (Established 2012)



Test Director: Holly Yanco New England Robot Validation and Experimentation Center Lowell, MA, USA (Established 2013)



Curtin University



Test Directors: Raymond Sheh and Bill Collidge Curtin University of Technology and Western Australia Police Bomb Response Unit Perth, WA, Australia (Established 2013)





Test Director: Christopher Scrapper SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific San Diego, CA, USA (Established 2014)



Test Director: Capt. Sam Hsu U.S. State Department Anti-Terrorism Assistance Training Facility Kabul, Afghanistan (Established 2015)





Test Director: Michal Karczewski Industrial Research Institute for Automation and Measurements Warsaw, Poland (Established 2015)





Test Director: Shinji Kawatsuma Fukushima Robot Test Facility Japanese Atomic Energy Agency Naraha, Fukushima, Japan (Established 2016)



Test Director: Steve Wheeler Remote Applications in Challenging Environments UK Atomic Energy Agency Oxford, United Kingdom (Established 2016)



Test Director: Korean Atomic Energy Research Institute Daejeon, South Korea (Established 2016)



Test Directors: Jackrit Suthakorn and Syed Saqib Hussain Shah Center for Biomedical and Robotics Technology (BART LAB) Mahidol University Bangkok, Thailand (Established 2017)

Mahidol Univeristy, THAILAND



Test Director: Seung Sub Oh Disaster Robotics R&D Center KIRO Institute for Robotics and Convergence Established: 2017



Test Director: Tetsuya Kimura Nagaoka University of Technology Niigata Prefecture, Japan Established: 2016



Test Director: Masayuki Okugawa Aichi Institute of Technology Nagoya Prefecture, Japan Established: 2017



Test Director: TBD Fukushima Robot Test Field Fukushima Prefecture, Japan Established 2018-2020

The UAS Test Methods

Test Methods for small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



Initial focus is on VTOL UAS, but some tests apply to forward flying aircraft when scaled up to the appropriate loiter radius.

Supporting NFPA 2400 and ASTM F38 Practical Skills Requirement

"Standard Guide for Training for Remote Pilot in Command of UAS Endorsement"

Qualitative Task Performance Levels: Quantitative Thresholds Benefits (Examples, You May Set Your Own) 4) PROFICIENT Scores captured Can do the complete task quickly and accurately. 80-100% in standard tests. Can tell or show others how to do the task. 3) COMPETENT Relative to the "expert" provided by Can do all parts of the task. 60-79% the manufacturer (or best score of all). Needs only a spot check of completed work. 2) PARTIALLY PROFICIENT Same description applies, but Can do most parts of the task. thresholds can be chosen based on Needs only help on hardest parts. measured data. 1) LIMITED

Can do simple parts of task.

Needs to be told or shown how to do most of task.

Provides clear thresholds for

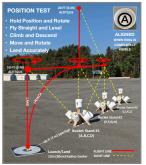
self-evaluation.

Test Methods Being Developed

Sensing

- Image Acuity
- Color Acuity
- Motion Acuity
- Thermal Acuity
- Latency (Video/Control)







Embedded

Basic Pilot Proficiency Tests

Maneuvering & Payload Functionality

- 1. Position
 - Hold Position and Rotate
 - Climb and Descend
 - Fly Straight and Level
 - Move and Rotate
 - Land Accurately
- 2. Traverse
- 3. Orbit
- 4. Spiral
- 5. Recon

Indoor

Outdoor

Maneuvering & Payload Funct. (contd.)

- Avoid Obstacles
- Pass Through Openings
- Map Wide Areas (Stitched Images)
- Survey Acuity
- Deliver Payload

Energy/Power

- Endurance (Mixed Use, High Speed)
- Perch Time (Landed w/ Sensors On)

Radio Communications

- Line-of-Sight Range
- Non-Line-of-Sight Range
- Interference/Attenuation

Safety

- Impact Forces
- Lights and Sounds
- Prop Guards
- Lost Power Behaviors
- Lost Comms Behaviors

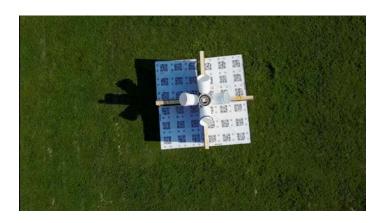
Durability

Rain Tolerance

Logistics

 Configuration Identification, Packaging & Setup Time

Test Methods Being Developed



Orbit - Maneuvering



Hold Position and Rotate

Basic Pilot Proficiency Tests -

Maneuvering & Payload Functionality

- 1. Position
 - Hold Position and Rotate
 - Climb and Descend
 - Fly Straight and Level
 - Move and Rotate
 - Land Accurately
- 2. Traverse
- 3. Orbit
- 4. Spiral
- 5. Recon



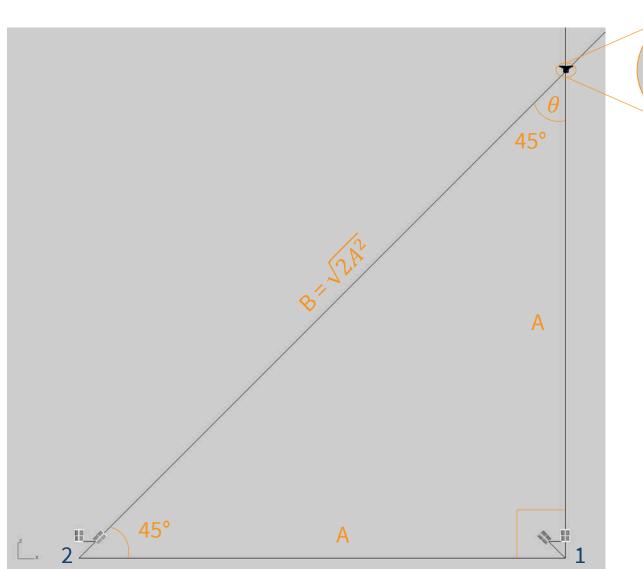
Orbit - Payload Functionality



Recon

The Theory Behind the Test Methods

Using Right Triangles to Localize an Aircraft in Space





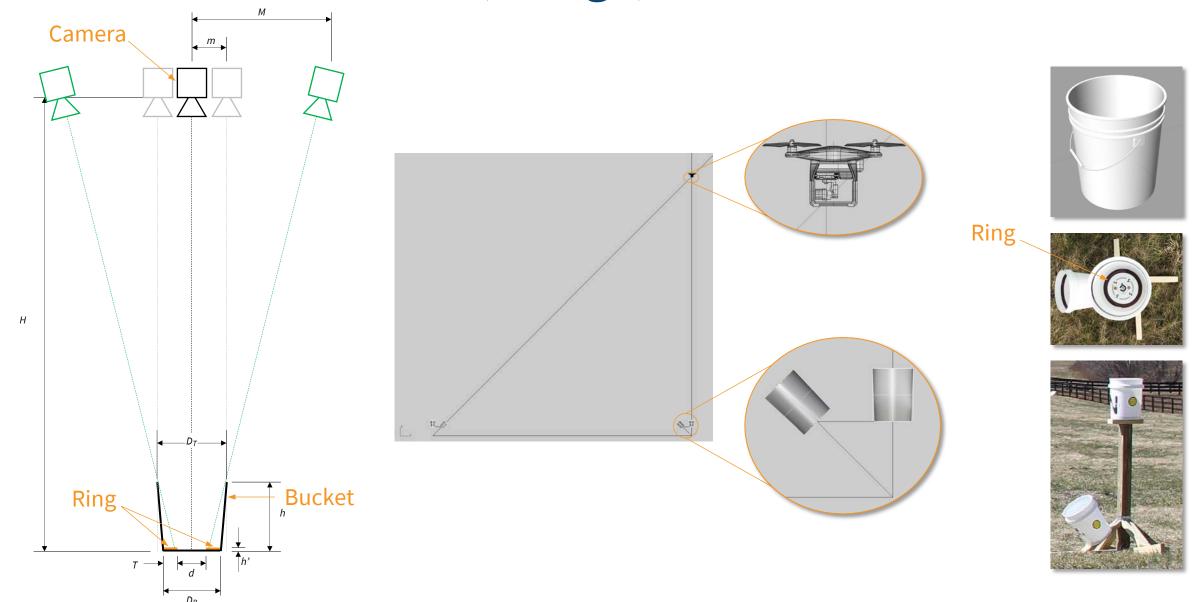
$$\Rightarrow \theta + 90^{\circ} + 45^{\circ} = 180^{\circ}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = 180^{\circ} - (90^{\circ} + 45^{\circ})$$

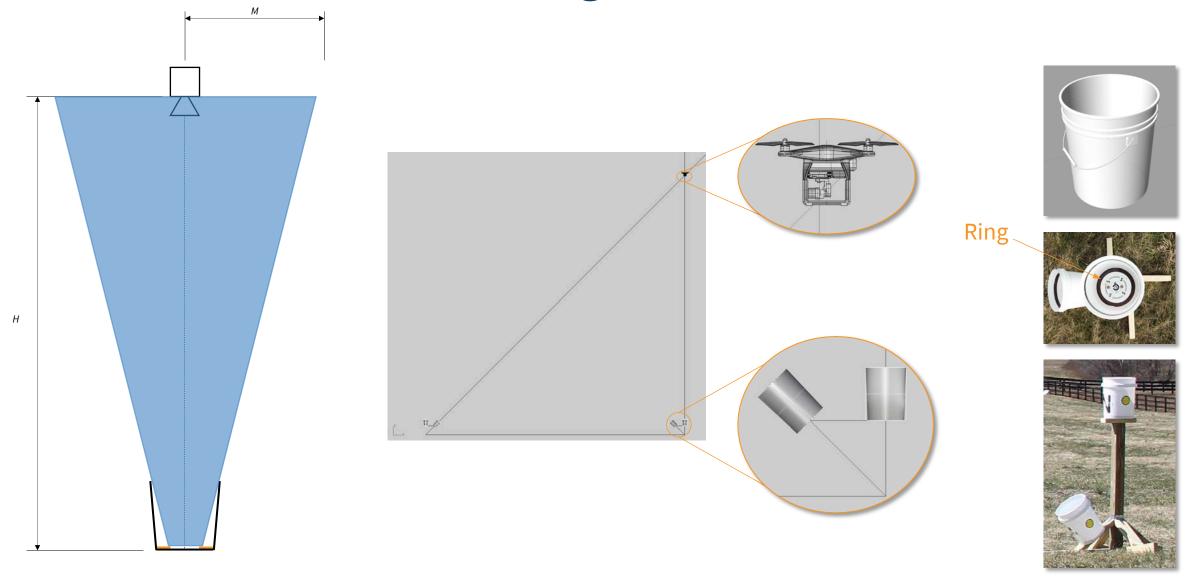
$$\Rightarrow \theta = 45^{\circ}$$

Therefore, aircraft elevation = A

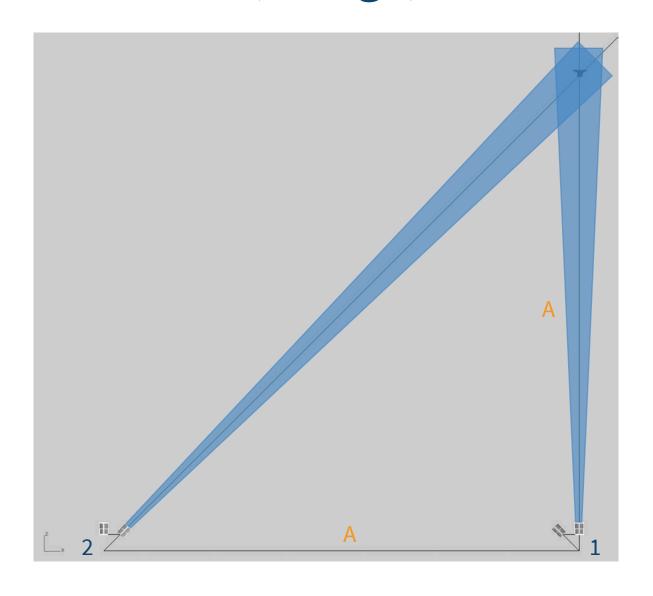
Cameras, Rings, and Buckets



Cameras, Rings, and Buckets



Cameras, Rings, and Buckets









Bucket Alignments Define Points of View

COMPLETE GREEN RING

ALIGNED



PARTIAL GREEN RING

ALIGNED



BROKEN GREEN RING

NOT ALIGNED



Bucket Alignments Define Points of View

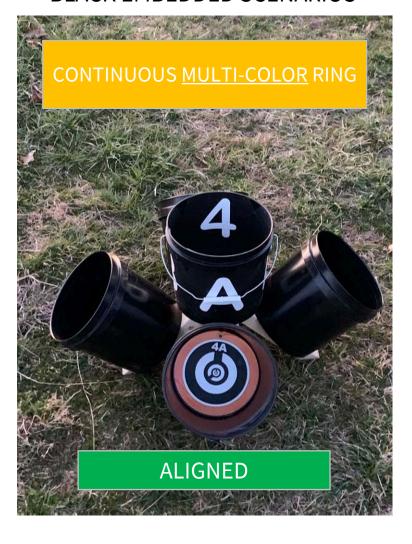
WHITE TEST LANES



WHITE TEST LANES



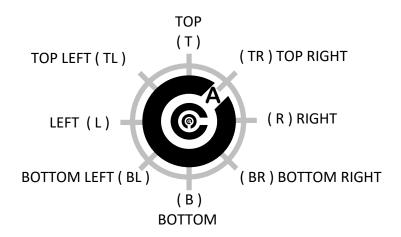
BLACK EMBEDDED SCENARIOS



Visual Acuity Targets for Payload Functionality



Align green (or multi-color) ring first Then read as many "Concentric Cs" as possible.



Identify "Concentric C" gap directions
There are 5 increasingly smaller sizes of
Cs to identify. For each readable size,
identify the gap direction as shown.

Basic Maneuvering / Payload Functionality Procedures

MANEUVERING

ALIGN WITH BUCKETS

See a continuous GREEN ring inside each designated bucket to determine successful alignment. The numbers/letters are bucket identifiers for captured images.

MAN 1-5



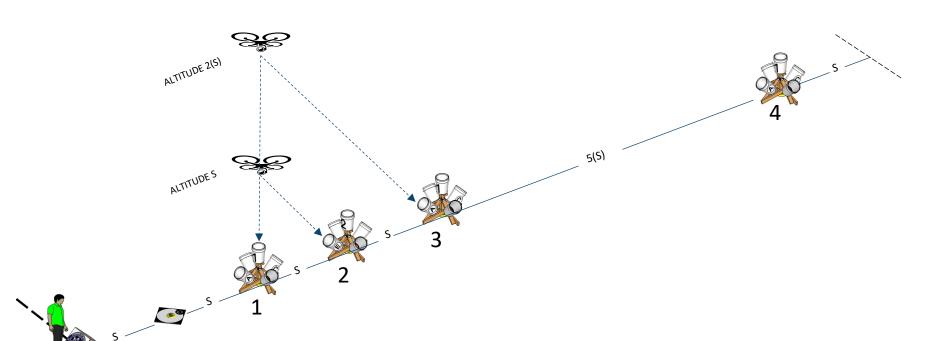


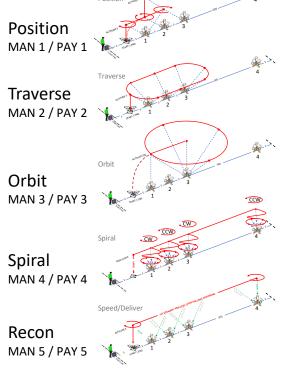
PAYLOAD FUNCTIONALITY



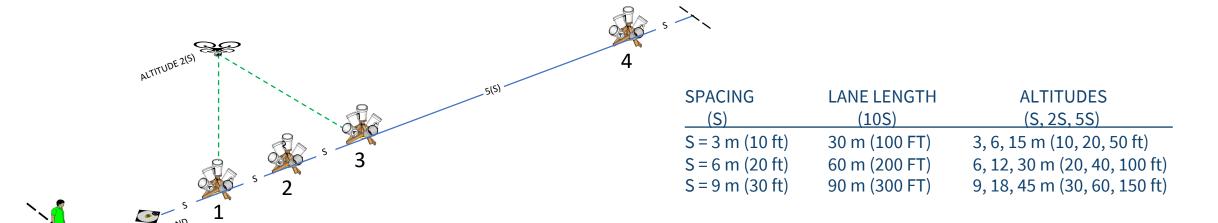
IDENTIFY VISUAL ACUITY TARGETS

Align with each designated bucket then identify the concentric C gap orientations. There are 5 increasingly small gaps to identify in 8 different orientations.





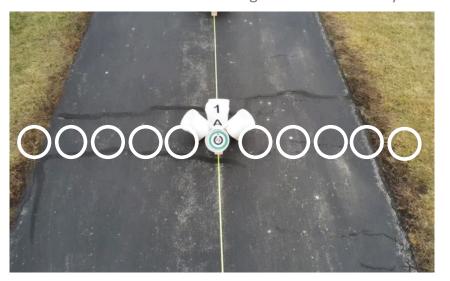
Choose An Appropriate Lane Spacing for the Aircraft



An appropriate lane spacing is when a 2(S) hover allows reading at least the outer concentric C target two stands away.





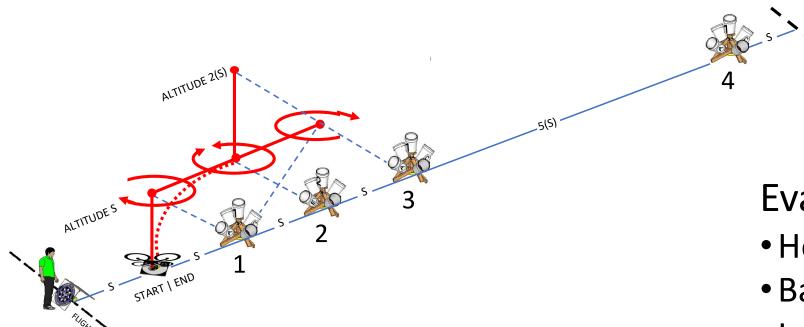


Altitude = Spacing between bucket stands.

Test Method Procedures

POSITION (MAN 1 | PAY 1)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



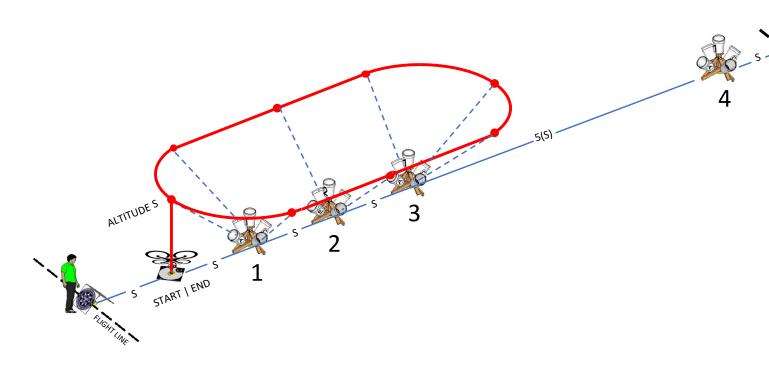
Evaluates

- Hover position stability
- Basic maneuvers
- Landing accuracy
- 20 tasks in 1 lap

MAN: Align only

TRAVERSE (MAN 2 | PAY 2)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



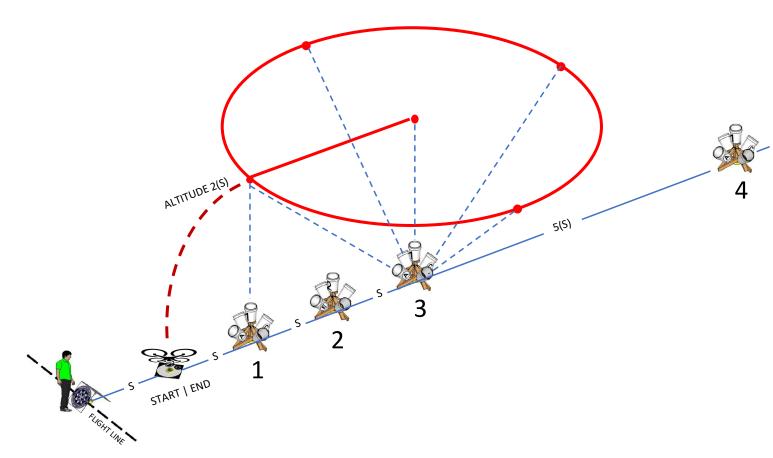
Evaluates

- Sideways flight along a line
- Left and right directions
- Landing accuracy
- 20 tasks in 1 lap

MAN: Align only

ORBIT (MAN 3 | PAY 3)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



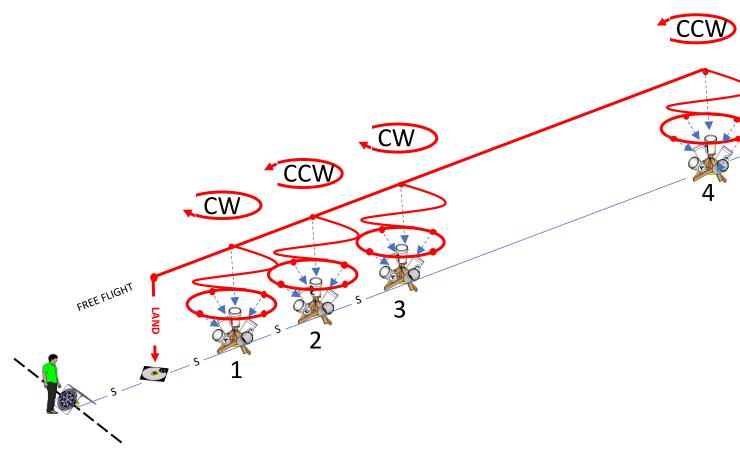
Evaluates

- Orbits to identify objects
- Left and right directions
- X and 2X altitudes
- 20 tasks in 4 laps

MAN: Align only

SPIRAL (MAN 4 | PAY 4)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



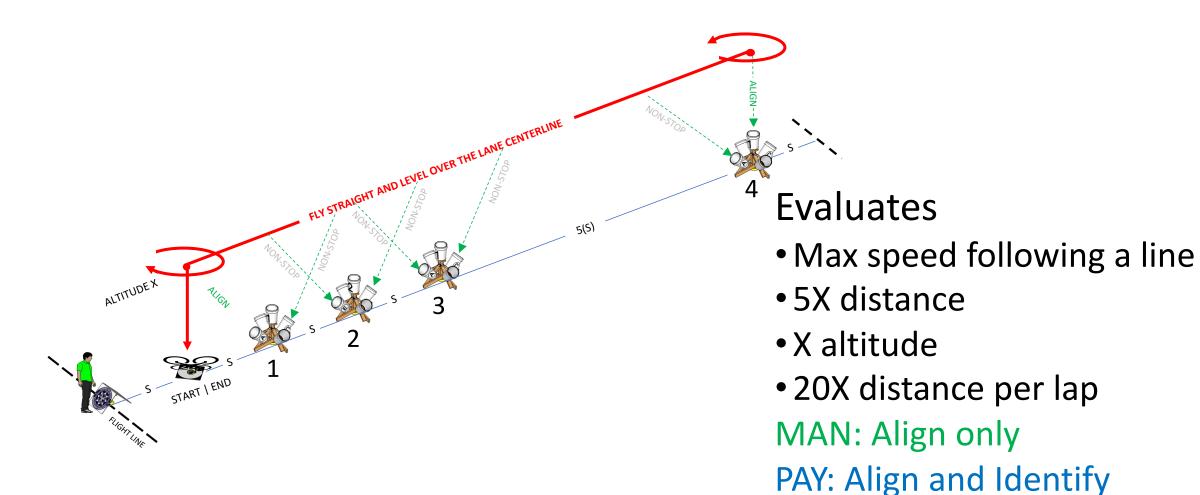
Evaluates

- Free flight to inspect objects
- Any proximity (use zooms)
- Any altitude
- 20 tasks in 1 lap

MAN: Align only

SPEED/RECON (MAN 5 | PAY 5)

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency



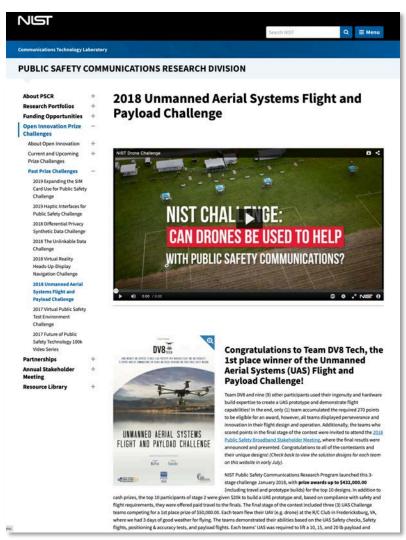
Payload Functionality - Positions (PAY1)



Test Methods used in UAS1 and UAS2

PSCR UAS Flight and Payload Challenge (UAS1) 2018

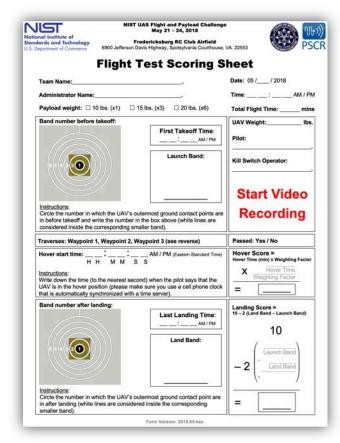
- VTOL
- Maximum flight time
- 10 lbs, 15 lbs, 20 lbs payload categories
- Hover stability within ± 5 ft
- Weight < 55 lbs
- Cost <= \$20,000
- No forward flying aircraft

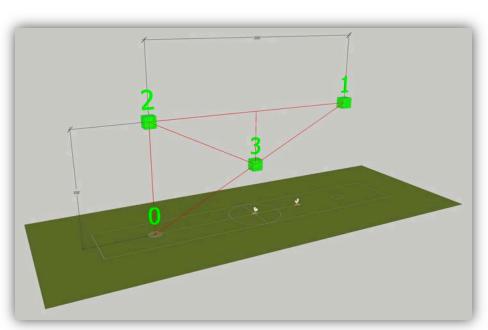


https://bit.ly/2BPbEdz

PSCR UAS Flight and Payload Challenge (UAS1) 2018

Team Name: 1. UAS Packed Configuration Volume Check (≤ 6 ft. x 4 ft. x 3 ft.) 2. UAV Weight Check (must be fully fueled) □ ≤ 35 ib. (of ≤ 35 ib. if rails attached) without 20 ib. payload □ ≤ 55 ib. with 20 ib. payload (includes rails) 3. Fuel Supply Checks (UAV OFF) □ Fuel tank & lines made of suitable material	Passed Pre Flight	Passed Post Flight	Inspect
2. UAV Weight Check (must be fully fueled) □ 35 lb. (or ≤ 36 lb. if rails attached) without 20 lb. payload □ 55 lb. with 20 lb. payload (includes rails) 3. Fuel Supply Checks (UAV OFF)			
3. Fuel Supply Checks (UAV OFF)			Tom
□ Fuel lines secured and in good condition □ No fuel close to exhaust □ Mark full fuel level on tank □ No fuel leaks □ Other:			Kasey
Structural Integrity Checks (UAV OFF) Components adequately secured and fasteners tightened Propelier structure and attachment integrity Payload rails securely attached Other:			Max & De
5. Electrical Checks (UAV OFF) Wiring and electronics intact Electrical connections secure Batteries in good condition No unnecessary loose wires Other:			Tony & J
6. Radio Spectrum Frequency Compliance Check		8	Hien
7. FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate #: Pilot name:			Andrew
8. Control Checks (UAV ON) Close range radio communications (with propellers, pilots in cage) Close range kill switch operation (with propellers, pilots in cage) Long range radio communications (with propellers, pilots at range) Long range kill switch operation (with propellers, pilots at range) Other:			Lane 1 Tom & To Lane 2 Jim & Der Lane 3 Max & Ho
9. Maneuvering Test Flights (UAV ON) Hover in place, forward, backward, left, right, and yaw (30 seconds) Maintain Position and Rotate (3 minutes) Ascend, Turn, and Descend (3 minutes) Move and Rotate / Fly Straight and Leve (3 minutes) UAS autonomous light-mode manual override (3 minutes) Land Accurately (3 minutes) Other:			Lane 1 Tom & To Lane 2: Jim & De- Lane 3: Max & Ho





PSCR UAS1 Overview



Test Method Lanes Setup

Setup 3 standard test method lanes with well-demarcated fly and no-fly zones for each contestant's aircraft.

Test Methods Used

Used the NIST "fly straight and level," "maintain position and orientation," and "land accurately" tests to evaluate the aircrafts' performance.



PSCR UAS1 Test Flights 2018



NIST Test Flight

NIST commercial-off-the-shelf aircraft with no payload and an integrated video downlink.

Contestant Test Flight

Contestant's aircraft with a 20 lb. payload and a NIST-provided video downlink.



First Responder UAS Endurance Challenge (UAS2) 2021

- VTOL
- Flight time >= 60 minutes
- 10 lbs payload only
- Hover in place or loiter around
- Weight <= 100 lbs
- Cost <= \$30,000
- Forward flying aircraft OK

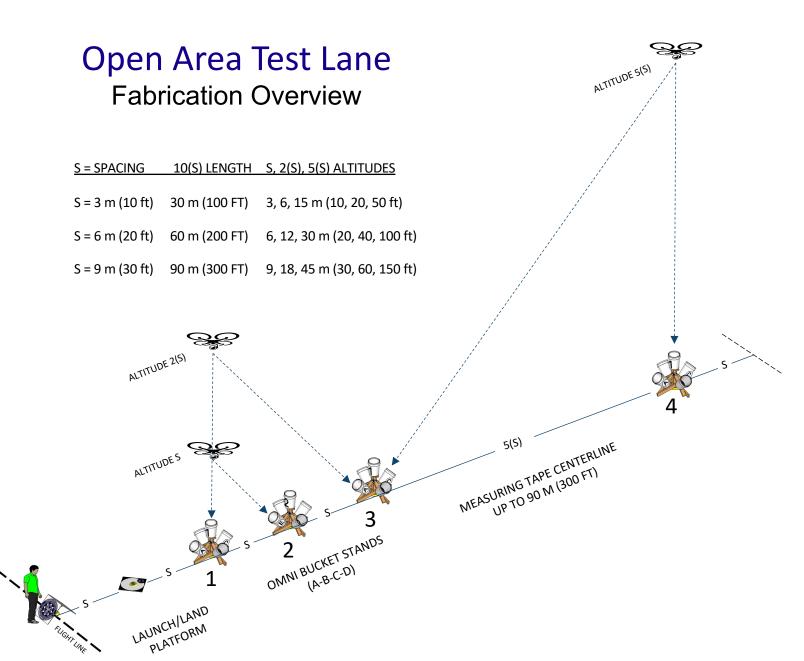


PSCR First Responder UAS Endurance Challenge (UAS2) 2021



Apparatus Fabrication

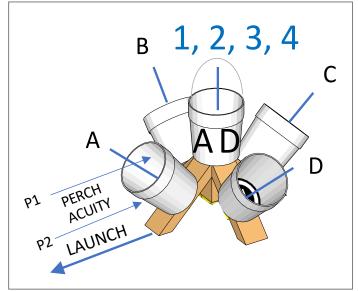


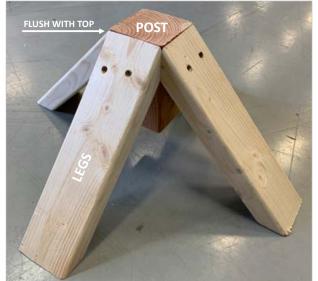


Open Area Test Lane

Fabrication Overview















Omni Bucket Stands

Fabrication Overview

Fabricate Stand:

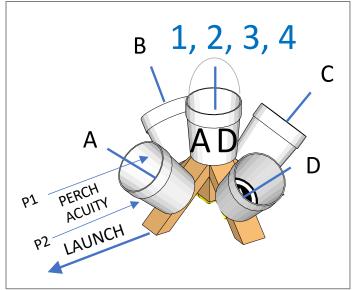
- [1] POST 4 x 4 x 6 inch.
- [4] LEGS 2 x 4 x 12 inch with 45-degree tapers on both ends cut tall on the miter saw with opposing tapers.
- [8] 3 in screws to affix the legs flush with the top of the POST. Use 2 screws per leg through the tapered top end.

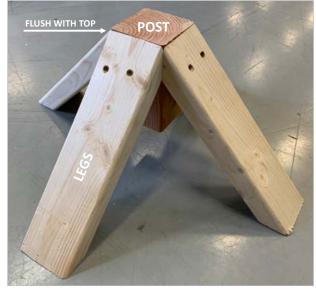
Sticker Buckets: (see pointers to download the sticker files)

- [5] White buckets 2-gallon or 8 in diameter.
- [15] 8in diameter matte weatherproof polyester stickers.
 - [4] Big numbers inside each top bucket 1111, 2222, 3333, 4444.
 - [4] Big letters around each top bucket ABCD, ABCD, ABCD, ABCD.
 - [5] Acuity targets inside all bottoms 1-1A-1B-1C-1D, 2-2A-2B-2C-2D, etc.
 - [2] Perch acuity targets inside and under bucket 1A only (see picture).

Affix Buckets to Stand

- Leave the carry handle on top numbered buckets.
- Remove the handles from all angled lettered buckets.
- [2] 3 in screws with washer heads to affix the top bucket into the post end grain. This enables the handled bucket to carry the entire weight of the stand. Both screws should go through the largest Concentric C in the target.
- [10] 1-1/2 in screws with washer heads to affix the angled buckets.
 Angled buckets <u>should be touching the top bucket</u> to support stacking.
 Both screws should go through the green inscribed alignment ring.









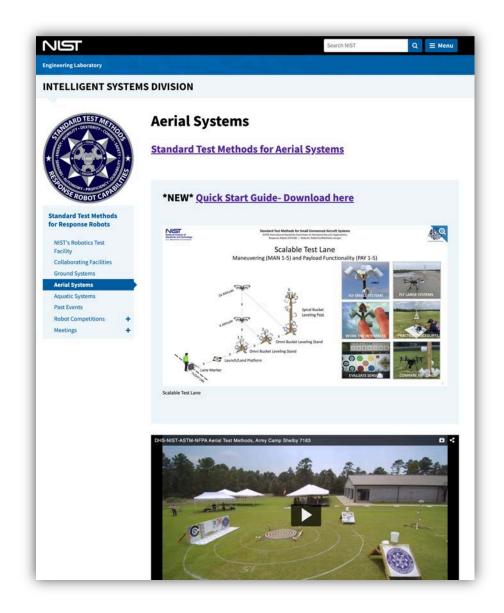


Fabrication Instructions & Test Procedures

https://RobotTestMethods.nist.gov

- Detailed fabrication guide including:
 - Bill of materials
 - Cut lists
 - Printable materials (stickers, posters, bucket inserts, etc.)
 - Fabrication and setup videos
- Detailed test procedures including:
 - Test guide
 - Printable test forms
 - Sample scoring videos

Or email: RobotTestMethods@nist.gov



Other UAS Test Methods

Scenarios with Directed Points of View

Safety | Capabilities | Proficiency







Vehicle Inspection

Training and Evaluation

Establish hover directly over top and orbit to identify all buckets on the roof stand (#, A, B, C, D).

Determine if further inspection is warranted (could be 20 vehicles).

Spiral inspect all sides and interior.

Perch to identity underbody targets (and maintain view if necessary for ground robots coming down range).











Canadian Police College, London, Ontario, Canada

Box Truck Inspection

Training and Evaluation

Establish hover directly over top and orbit to identify all buckets on the roof stand (#, A, B, C, D).

Determine if further inspection is warranted (could be 20 vehicles).

Spiral inspect all sides and interior.

Perch to identity underbody targets (and maintain view if necessary for ground robots coming down range).







NIST, Gaithersburg, MD

Fuel Truck / Rail Car Inspection

Training and Evaluation

Establish hover directly over top and orbit to identify all buckets on the roof stand (#, A, B, C, D).

Determine if further inspection is warranted (could be 20 vehicles).

Spiral inspect all sides and interior.

Perch to identity underbody targets (and maintain view if necessary for ground robots coming down range).









Safety and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC), Pueblo, CO

Wide Area Search

Training and Evaluation























Building Exterior Search

Training and Evaluation





INDOOR VERSIONS (1qt/4in diameter)

Indoor/Outdoor

Training and Evaluation

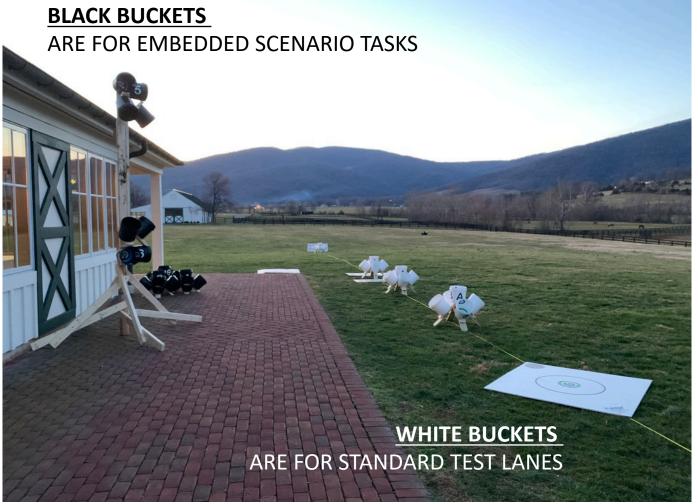
OUTDOOR VERSIONS (2gal/8in diameter)











METAL BUCKETS BLEND INTO THE ENVIRONMENT

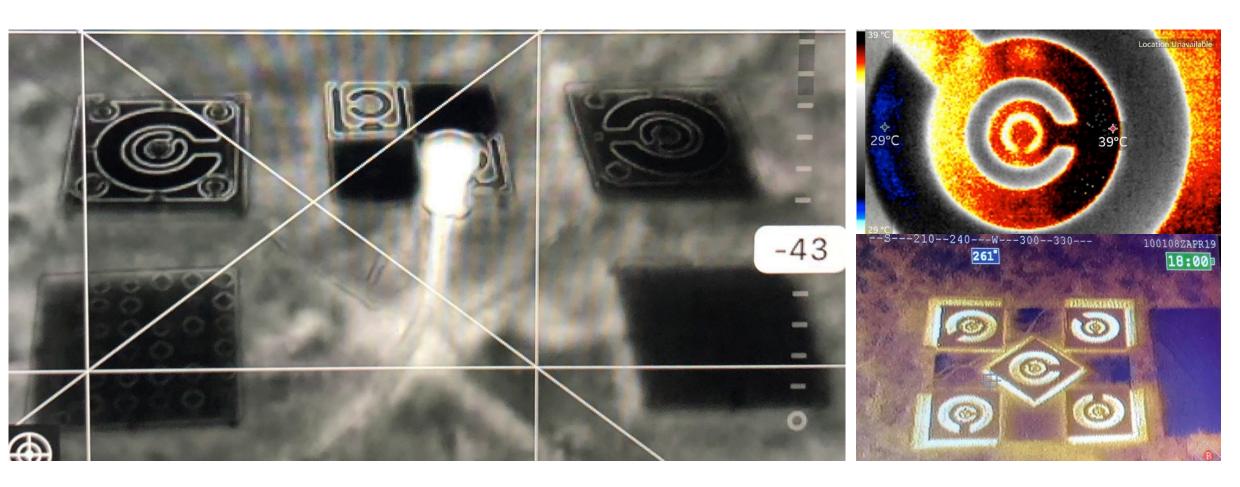
Indoor Search Training and Evaluation





Thermal Targets

Training and Evaluation

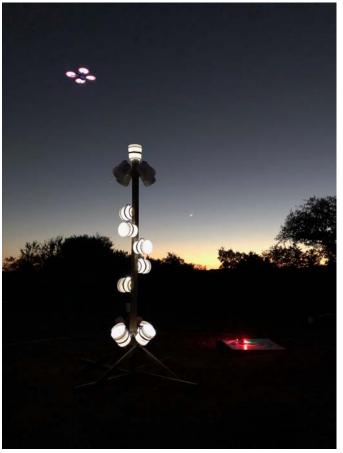


White or red headlamps wrapped around the buckets pointed inward!

Night Operations Training and Evaluation

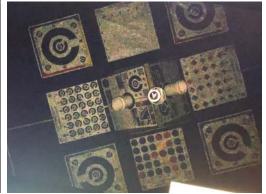


Position guidance for range to target using lighted buckets (red or white)

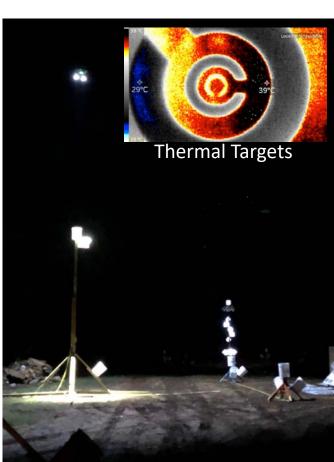


Inspect objects of interest using lighted buckets (red or white)





Identify objects lighted from the aircraft



Measure additional sensor capabilities

NIST and Reveille Peak Ranch, Burnet, TX

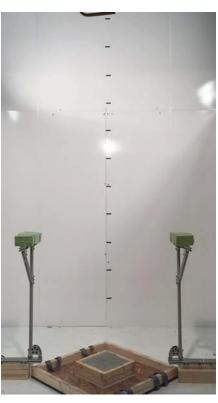




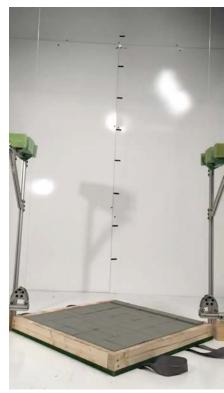
Inspect Object

Measurement Science Approach









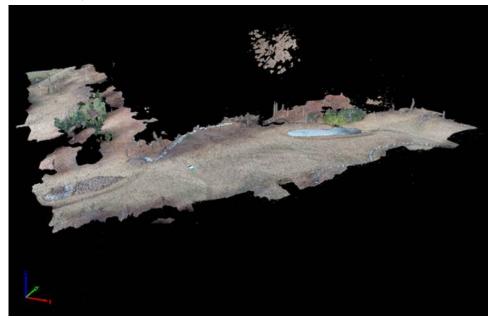
Wooden Ball Steel Ball Toy UAS UAS Surrogate

Map Wide Areas









Contact Information





